

Correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary,
Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE, 3001.

Meetings are held in the clubroom, 377 Little Bourke Street, entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night between 7.00 and 9.00 p.m.
Visitors are always welcome.

NOVEMBER - WALK PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS

NOVEMBER 1 DOM DOM SADDLE - CONDONS TRACK - DONNELLYS WEIR EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: Graeme Laidlaw
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9.15 a.m.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE: Juliet 1:50 000
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 19 km

*Start of
daylight
savings??*

If you like trees and birds you'll enjoy this stroll. The first part is along the Great Divide, following a broad clearing, walking on track or grass as preferred. In the first half mile, I saw 2 wallabies and several flame robins, although later rain, hail and sleet affected the more distant views. We then diverge from the programmed walk, which totalled about 32 km, and descent Condons Track - if enough one-eyed companions help me to stay on the route. Our way then follows gently down the valley of Sawpit Creek, giving us an altitude loss of 1400'. So let the van do most of the climbing and enjoy a day in the forest. Bring water.

NOVEMBER 3 FERNTREE GULLY NATIONAL PARK - BELGRAVE EASY
CUP DAY

LEADER: Athol Schafer
TRANSPORT: Train Flinders St. Station 8.45 a.m.
MAP REFERENCE: Malway
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 14 km

We hope to complete this walk that had to be shortened last time (March) on account of low clouds and rain. However, the route will now be varied to include a new area and tracks which it appears have never been traversed before by this club. The new zoned ticket system will be in operation so I suggest that those who are travelling to the city by public transport purchase a \$3.60 Travel Card which should then cover their day's travel. Otherwise buy a single ticket to Upper Ferntree Gully.

NOVEMBER 8 MURRINDINDIH - MT. CUNNINGHAM - MOLESWORTH MEDIUM

LEADER: Prue Hardiman
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9.15 a.m.

FOR DETAILS SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOM

NOVEMBER 6 - 8 TIDAL RIVER - OBERON BAY - WATERLOO BAY MEDIUM
SEALERS COVE.

LEADER: ROY WATSON
 TRANSPORT: Private

A pleasant walk is guaranteed, with excellent bush and coastal views. We will start at Telegraph Saddle and meander down to Sealers Cove for lunch. From there, a short walk will take us to our camp site at Refuge Bay. Next day, we will visit Waterloo Bay and can then either walk back up to Telegraph Saddle or continue on to Tidal River via Oberon Bay. For those who haven't done this walk before, it's too good to miss out on, so get your name down quickly as we are limited to 12 walkers. Now for the bad news - fires are not permitted after November 1st, so stoves will have to be taken.

NOVEMBER 13-15 BUCKLAND RIVER - BUFFALO PLATEAU MEDIUM

LEADER: Peter Bullard
 TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave., 6.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: With the others
 MAP REFERENCE: Mt. Buffalo Nat. Park (Algona)
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: Sat. 14 km, Sun. 20 km

This walk will start from the Buckland River and then climb up to the Old Galleries on the Buffalo Plateau. The climb will be approx. 1000 metres over 8 km. Saturday night we will be camping at Lake Catani and on Sunday I plan to go out onto the North Buffalo Plateau, so bring day packs. As there are three walks on one bus it will be necessary to book early.

NOVEMBER 13 - 15 EUROBIN FALLS - NORTH BUFFALO PLATEAU MEDIUM/HARD
ROLLASON FALLS

LEADER: Graeme Thornton
 TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: With the others or approx 9.30 p.m.
 MAP REFERENCE: Buffalo J: 100 000
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 20 km
 PARTY SIZE LIMIT: 10

Give Valhalla a miss this weekend and come on a mystery tour. With such names as Haunted Gorge, Og Gog and Magog what else could it be? The walks secretary has graded the walk as medium/hard. I expect the walk to be medium with the navigation the hard, sorry, interesting bit. As interesting navigation makes for interesting walks it should be fun. If the other leaders are kind to us with the bus, Saturday will be with only a day pack. Think of the freedom, no wallowing up mossy, slippery false ridges with a full pack. Perchance you think I'm being mysterious about this walk, you're right! Only those intendees who contact me (878 0660 home or 541 1222 work) and are in on the mystery are eligible. Bring choofer, day pack, water bottle.

NOVEMBER 13 - 15 MT. BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK - BASE CAMP EASY

LEADER: Jim Marsden
 TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: See above
 MAP REFERENCE: Mt. Buffalo Nat. Park (Algona)

This will be an easy weekend. If you want your liver really shaken go on one of the other 2 walks in the same area. Saturday we will explore the Chalwell Galleries, View Point and Lake Catanni area. On Saturday night we will try and find the glow worms in the underground river so bring a good torch for a night walk. Sunday we will walk down the road to the reservoir, then south to Mt. Dunn and return to camp via the Long Plain.

COMMITTEE NOTES - 5th OCT. 1981

Treasurer - Bank Balance \$8878.76
 Bills passed for payment \$586.50 total (included donation to
 A.C.F for Save the Franklin Fund)

Walks Secretary - August figures Day walkers 189 -156 members
 Weekend walkers 24.
 Members 156, Visitors 57 Total 213/
 Profit \$102.

Membership 405 financial members

"Walk" - proposed to print 3500 copies. Cover price \$1.60

Next Committee meeting -- 2nd November.

Duty Roster

14 Oct.	Les Kriesfield, Rob Ayre
21 Oct.	Bob Steel, Rod Mattingley
28 Oct.	Joan Locke, Prue Hardiman
4 Nov.	Peter Bullard, Keith White

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A SPECIAL NOTE FOR WILKY USERS AND FOR OTHER GAS LANTERN/KEROSENE
 LANTERN USERS!!

It was apparent during our group's week at Wilky that many members are unaware of the dangers to which they and other Wilky users are exposed when new mantles are fitted to a lantern and used indoors. The following information is offered as a reminder - it was published in CHOICE (June '77 and November '77) In summary - when you fit a mantle, treat it with respect - it can fight back. And above all fit it and light the lamp outside.

Rob Ayre

WARNING - BERYLLIUM POISONING In 1973 a research worker in the United States of America reported that gas lamp mantles from the one brand tested contained about 600 micrograms of toxic beryllium metal. When the mantle is lit in the lamp for the first time most of this beryllium becomes volatile and escapes during the first few minutes. The inhalation of this quantity of beryllium can be hazardous, particularly since the user often has his face close to the mantle during this period as he slowly opens the fuel valve. The fumes should be avoided, as the acute form of beryllium disease (a serious sometimes fatal lung disease) can be caused by a single exposure to a high concentration of beryllium for a short time. This operation should only be carried out outdoors or where there is good ventilation. When replacing and disposing of an old mantle, special care should be taken to dispose properly of the light fluffy residue.

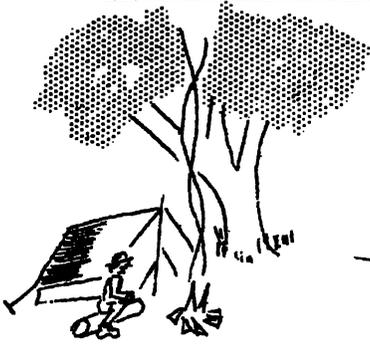
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In ACA's report on kerosene lamps (CHOICE 1977) we warned of the danger of inhaling toxic beryllium fumes from the initial lighting of the mantle.

The results of our tests for the presence of beryllium are now available. We tested five brands of mantles widely available.

Four of the five brands had less than 20 micrograms of beryllium per mantle. These were Brands, Tilley, Rocket, and Cook-on Gas. The fifth brand tested, Eagle, had between 250 and 300 micrograms of beryllium per mantle. Although this is less than half the average amount of beryllium found in the 1973 American tests referred to in our earlier report, it is unacceptably high. The American work showed that up to two-thirds of the beryllium in the mantle is driven off in the first 15 minutes of use. The recommended maximum allowable concentration for beryllium is two micrograms per cubic metre averaged over an eight hour period.

Although the four brands with less than 20 micrograms per mantle present a much lower risk than Eagle mantles, we repeat our earlier warning - take care not to breathe the fumes from a mantle lit for the first time. Always burn off a new mantle in the open air-never in confined spaces.



A LONG THE TRACK

WALKING THE CATHEDRAL RANGES

Once upon a time there was a Gorilla, an average sort of Gorilla, about medium size and looking like Gorillas usually look. He did not do much, except when his owners went on a picnic or to a barbecue. He always enjoyed going to those, so he could sit near the fire in the sun while the steaks and sausages spluttered and sizzled.

A few weeks ago the Gorilla was put in the back of the family car and Lynn drove out to the Cathedral Range. Crystal and Brad came too, and along the way they picked up Paul and Peter. Ann and Glenn met them there. The first bridge over the Little River had been washed away, so they had to walk to Cook's Mill. The Gorilla did not mind, he was hitched to the back of Glenn's pack, and enjoyed the stroll, as it was a beautiful day.

At Cook's Mill a fire was quickly started and the Gorilla cooked lunch, although he nearly dropped a steak into the fire. Everyone else watched in amazement as Peter's pack disgorged a huge pile of sausages and steaks, three litres of milk, eight apples, half a litre of yoghurt, a bottle of wine and enough cheese to keep the whole party alive for several weeks.

After lunch Lynn said the Gorilla had to stay at the bottom of the hill, so they left him hidden in the bush. They knew he would be all right till they came back. So off they went up the steep, rocky track. The sun shone down, but it was not too hot and they soon came across a tinkling, gurgling stream which they followed to the saddle where they set up camp.

And what a camp it was; a roaring fire, logs to sit on, stars blazing overhead and damper and cheesecake all round. It was a pity those scouts nearby turned on that loud radio, but they turned it off soon enough when Peter asked them nicely.

The next morning they set off along the Razorback with day packs, and although they did not quite make it to the Sugarloaf, it was still very enjoyable scrambling around in the rocks and looking at the glorious views to both sides.

After lunch they waved goodbye to the friendly kookooburras and set off along the ridge towards the Cathedral - after all, said Lynn, why go back the same way when the cars are near the Cathedral anyway? Things got a bit scambly here and there, but there were plenty of wildflowers to look at. Once Paul bounded up a hill after a wallaby, but soon discovered it could go uphill faster than he could.

Between Ned's Peak and the main range a well-informed track veered off towards the river, though it was not marked on the map. They followed it anyway, and indeed it was a more direct way back, because it went just about straight down! Brad said it was just like skiing as he and Crystal slithered and slid after Paul and Glenn down the gravelly, dusty slope. Ann, Lynn and Peter wore boots, and did not fall over nearly as often. But everyone helped everyone else, and they were soon back on the road, striding through the twilight over the range, and the end of a most enjoyable and interesting walk.

But, I hear you ask, what about the Gorilla? And of course they had forgotten about him, and it was too late to go back, But the Gorilla did not mind. He just sat in the sun, surrounded by green, green grass, and golden wattle, and countless wonderful wildflowers, and watched all the birds, and listened to their song, and dangled his feet in the hurrying, burbling Little River, and lived happily ever after.

Glen Sanders

PLEASE HELP

DOOMSDAY APPROACHES..... IT'S NOW OR NEVER.

DO YOU WANT THE GORDON AND FRANKLIN RIVERS TO RUN FREE??

IF SO, ACT NOW!!!!!!!

The DAMS referendum (choice of two evils) is to be held on Nov. 14. So the Tasmanian Wilderness Society is mounting a last ditch (and very expensive campaign) to save the remains of the south-west from the clutches of the Hydro-Electric Commission. They need \$60,000. The Australian Conservation Foundation hopes to raise \$20,000 of that from its member bodies. So, \$40,000 must be found in the next few weeks to enable a successful campaign to be initiated and operating at peak level before the Nov. 14 deadline.

At the Sep. 30 general meeting club members voted to contribute \$250 to the fighting fund. Sounds a lot doesn't it? Sadly when you work it out on a per person basis it is a measly 60 cents each.

If you truly care for one of the world's remaining beautiful places and, (on a more selfish note) one of the best walking destinations for Victorian bushies, then please dig into your pocket and make a substantial committment.

Just ask yourself how much you would be prepared to outlay for a 2 week wilderness walking holiday in Tasmania? Probably close to \$60 for food and \$200 for transport. No ask yourself how much you will give to this appeal.

Cheques made out to the Tasmanian Wilderness Society can be sent to:
419 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3000

THE FUTURE OF THE GRAMPIANS

LIES IN OUR HANDS.....YES! THAT IS YOU!!!!!!!!!!!

The land Conservation Council has recently released it's proposed recommendations for South-West Area - District 2. In it they propose dividing the Grampians between two management authorities, giving the National Parks Service control over most of the rocky inaccessible areas while the Forest Commission retains most of the bushland. there are many reasons why this is an unsatisfactory solution to the long term problem of management of this beautiful region. I will be compiling a submission on behalf of the club and need help to do it.

Please see me (Joan Locke) in the clubroom or ring me if you feel you would like to assist. The closing date is November 16.

1982 ALPINE CALENDAR

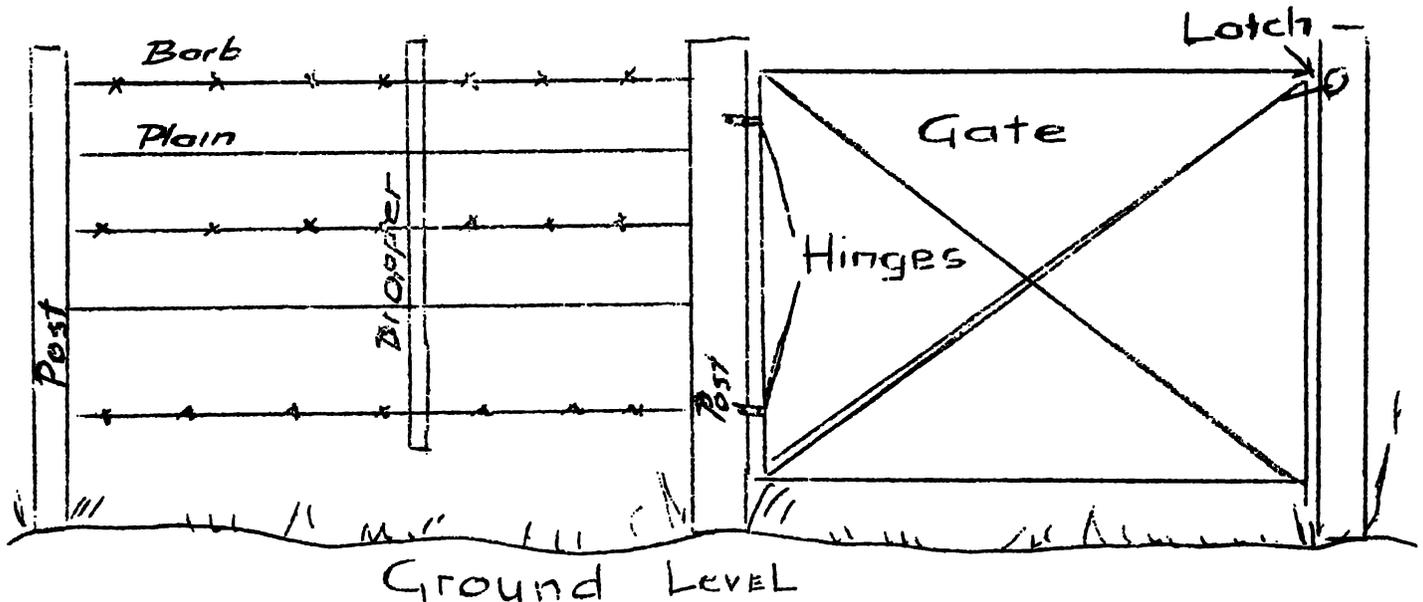
NOW AVAILABLE It contains 12 attractive photos of our beautiful high country and makes an excellent present for family, friends or, if you are stuck, yourself. Retailing for \$5.95, you will be able to buy it through the club for \$5.00 All profits go to the Conservation Council of Victoria.

See Joan Locke in the clubroom to place your order.

A FEW WORDS ON FENCES AND GATES

On many of our walks it is necessary to get from one side of a fence to the other, this task is often executed with resultant damage to the person, clothing and the farmer's fence or gate. Farmers are becoming less tolerant of bushwalkers traversing their farmland as a result of this damage so I suggest the following in consideration of the farmer and yourself.

1. Before you attempt to climb or get through a fence look for a gate, quite often one is at hand.
2. If getting through, first remove your pack, put it over the fence and make sure you have a strand of plain wire above you, press down on the barbed wire under you, using some material to protect your hands.
3. If getting over, select a solid post for a steady hand support and place one foot on a strand of wire as close to the post as possible, swing the other foot to the top strand taking a lot of your weight of the wire on the hands and arms resting on the post.
4. Do not attempt to climb over using a dropper as a hand support - droppers are not set in the ground and are too unstable.
5. Occassionally when a gate is available it is found to be locked you can climb a gate without damage to it providing the climb is made at the hinged end.
6. Rabbit proof fences (wire netting as well as strands of wire) are the most difficult ones, particularly if approached from the netting side.
As you cannot get through this fence, it must be climbed over at a solid post.



WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

David CHARLES, 1214 Plenty Rd. BUNDOORA, 3083 H)467 4630 B) 609 2143
Robert CLODE, 1/57 Meuston St. EAST HAWTHORN, 3123 H)813 2695 B)828 1668

CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Barbara BURTON, 6/4 George St. East Melbourne
Peter COHEN, B) 615 2569
Derek CONDOR, C/ Dept. of Science of Technology, Antarctic Div., Channel Hwy,
Kingston, Tas. 7150
or C/ 37 Cecelia St. MURDIALLOC, 3195 H)580 3246
Greg LAWSON, 17 Wilton St. BLACKBURN NTH, 3130 B) 653 6653
Lynn MUIRHEAD, 4/21 Rosella St. MURRUMBEENA, 3163 H)568 3390
Pam WESTGATE, 2/55 Royal Ave., SANDRINGHAM, 3191 H)598 1673
Caroline STRICKLAND, B)699 4211